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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Necessary instructions in this behalf have been issued to the Collectors. If any taluk officer does not pay cash for these bonus coupons the matter may be brought to the notice of the Government and we shall enquire into it. But I may announce here and now cash payment for all bonus coupons have been ordered and any ryot has got the option to take advantage of exchanging coupon for cash."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I enquire whether the Government of India have offered to pay the value of bonus coupons if they are to be redeemed in the shape of manures?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question is a big 'if'. Because manures are not available, therefore it is, the Provincial Government have decided to pay in cash."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will that cash payment be made good by the Government of India?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We will have to get into touch with them on that question."

Diesel motor buses.

*73 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of diesel motor buses purchased, since the Nationalization of Motor Transport in the City of Madras;

(b) the cost of each bus and the total amount paid for the above buses;

(c) the firm from which the diesel buses were purchased and the address of the said firm; and

(d) whether in the report by the adjudicator in the matter of disputes between bus proprietors and the workers, he has given his opinion that the cost of each bus will not be more than Rs. 15,000?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" (a) Twenty-five Italian Diesel buses have so far been purchased.

" (b) The cost of each bus *excluding customs duty* works out to Rs. 34,684 approximately. The total amount paid for the 25 buses, *excluding customs duty*, is Rs. 8,67,104–6–4.

" (c) The buses were purchased from the Agents of Messrs. Isotta Fraschini Automobile Company, Milan, Italy. Their address is Messrs. Indo-British General Exchange, Ltd., New Opera Buildings, Residency Road, Bangalore.

" (d) In calculating the working expenses and the income for a bus, the Industrial Tribunal has assumed that the maximum cost of a bus is Rs. 15,000; but the figure relates only to a petrol bus."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Are Government aware that these Diesel motor buses are, as per public opinion, considered to be inferior to petrol buses, and they emanate nauseating smell and it is impossible for passengers to sit in Diesel buses."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We are aware of the smoke they emit, though we are not aware of the public opinion, and we do not know whether public opinion counts in this matter. Whatever it is, we were in correspondence with their agents and they have replied recently stating that they have deputed their engineer to look into this matter; and we are corresponding with their Agent in India just now."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister has ever travelled in the Diesel bus in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I did." (Laughter.)

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Did he not then feel this nauseating smell, which makes it impossible for one to continue a journey of three to four miles? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I do not know whether passengers inside get the nauseating smell; only pedestrians outside on the road get this smell." (Laughter.)

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Are these Diesel buses cheaper than charcoal buses? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I do not know, Sir. A separate question may be put."

Charcoal buses.

* 74 *Q.*—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have directed the Central Road Traffic Board to remove the ban on charcoal buses;

(*b*) if so, whether the ban has been removed and permits issued to applicants for charcoal buses;

(*c*) if not, why it has not been removed;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that permits are freely issued for charcoal lorries;

(*e*) why the charcoal buses are refused permits;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that operators, who have diesel oil buses suitable for long distances, are also refused permits to run on the roads when there is no ban on them;

(*g*) whether the Government propose to issue orders for grant of permits for charcoal and diesel oil buses; and

(*h*) whether the Government propose to issue orders to grant permits for petrol buses also on new routes pending nationalization?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" (*a*) The Government have asked the Central Road Traffic Board to instruct